

REGIONAL REINVENTION

EMPOWERING LOCALS TO DRIVE ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

Evaluation Criteria for Eligible Applicants and Partners

1. Demonstrative Commitment to Collaboration:

Grant proposals must meet the requirements of the legislative and executive intent by bringing together organizational representation from the required participants of a region to create a regional prosperity plan. Successful applications will feature strong regional representation and a demonstrable commitment to collaboration.

Required participants include regional representation from the public, private and nonprofit organizations, specifically including representation from the following areas:

- Adult education;
- Workforce development;
- Economic development;
- Transportation; and
- Higher education organizations.

At a minimum, successful applications will include the required participants listed above. For clarity, the following are **EXAMPLES** of individuals and organizations that should be considered when crafting participation for meaningful engagement. This list is not all-inclusive and participation will depend upon the varying identity, needs and preferences of each region.

- **Private Sector**
Owners, chief executives and chief operating officers (or their designees who have substantial responsibility) in private sector firms, both large and small.
- **Economic Development**
The CDC(s), the regional EDA designated development district(s) within a region, and others actively engaged in economic development across the region.
- **Transportation**
Each MPO operating in whole or in part within the region, all rural task force chairs, transit carrier(s) or regional transit authority(ies), and other regionally defined transportation oriented entities within a region.
- **Workforce**
Each Michigan Works! agency operating in whole or in part within each region.

- **Higher Education**
Trustees and presidents (or their designees with substantial responsibility) from public universities and community colleges within the region.
- **Adult Education**
School districts, ISDs, literacy councils, community colleges or other pertinent regional entities actively engaged in the planning and provision of adult education services.
- **Foundations/Non-profits**
Chief executive officers and chief operating officers (or their designees with substantial responsibility) from philanthropic and regionally-based community organizations.
- **Local Governments**
Elected officials or appointed officials with substantial management or economic development responsibility from counties, cities, villages and townships within the region.

2. Compliance with Priorities of Program:

The grant proposals must comply with the intent of the Regional Prosperity Initiative by convening local and regional stakeholders for the purpose of creating a regional prosperity plan and developing a comprehensive and measurable vision for economic prosperity. Applicants that demonstrate their commitment to leveraging local and regional partnerships and assets to develop and drive regional economic success in Michigan will be looked upon favorably.

- A regional prosperity plan, at the collaborative level, is a 5-year plan. This plan must include:
 - A comprehensive economic development blueprint that recognizes the connections between and, at a minimum, coordinates plans for adult education, workforce development, economic development, transportation, and higher education;
 - A performance dashboard; and
 - Measurable annual goals.
- A regional prosperity plan, at the board level, is a 10-year plan. This plan must include:
 - An updated comprehensive economic development blueprint of a 5-year plan, that recognizes the connections between and, at a minimum, coordinates plans for adult education, workforce development, economic development, transportation, and higher education and has been previously developed and supported by all parties defined as required participants;
 - A performance dashboard;

- Measurable annual goals; and
- A prioritized list of projects that corresponds to the region's prosperity plan.
- A regional prosperity plan, at the council level, is a 10-year plan. This plan must include:
 - An updated comprehensive economic development blueprint of a 5-year plan, that recognizes the connections between and, at a minimum, coordinates plans for adult education, workforce development, economic development, transportation, and higher education and has been supported by all parties defined as required participants of a consolidated board (defined as the consolidation of at least two or more public boards);
 - A performance dashboard;
 - Measurable Annual Goals; and
 - A prioritized list of projects that corresponds to the region's prosperity plan.

3. Reasonable Use of Grant Dollars:

The funds made available with the Regional Prosperity Initiative should be used to leverage successful regional collaboration and to create a successful economic vision for the region. While the needs for these dollars may vary by region, a successful application will:

- Demonstrate clear intended use of grant dollars or show increased revenue to the region as a result of grant dollars; and/or
- Clearly identify how the grant dollars will be measured to determine realization of the collaborative, board or council.

4. Clearly Defined Regional Leadership:

Grant applications must be submitted by qualified entities, as prescribed in statute. Applications should identify lead regional entity/entities and adequately illustrate that organization's ability to coordinate the other organizations involved in the application.

5. Identified Potential for Success and Difficulty:

Grant applications should provide a realistic assessment of the current assets of the region and provide an understanding of how those assets can be leveraged in working toward a regional economic future. Similarly, successful applicants will also demonstrate some of the potential challenges that lie ahead within a region and how the applicant and its partners can work to address the identified challenges.

6. Identified Transparency:

Statute requires meetings associated with the Regional Prosperity Initiative to be transparent. Successful applicants will illustrate an ability to comply with the required meeting schedules and transparency of meeting documents and activities.